

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A body waste disposable article having a body fluids absorbent means comprising a liquid-pervious topsheet, a liquid-impervious backsheet and a liquid-absorbent core disposed therebetween, a surrounding wall being defined by a portion of at least one of said topsheet and said backsheet extending outward beyond a peripheral edge of said absorbent means and folded back to partially cover a top surface of said absorbent means in proximity of said peripheral edge and thereby to leave an opening surrounded by said surrounding wall above a central zone of said absorbent means, and said surrounding wall being elastically stretchable and contractable along an edge of said opening, wherein:

said absorbent means has a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction being orthogonal to said longitudinal direction in which said absorbent means is composed of a front end, a rear end and an intermediate region extending between the front and rear end so that said absorbent means is configured to have the largest width in said intermediate region.

2. The article according to Claim 1, wherein said

3. The article according to Claim 1, wherein said intermediate region has the largest width at its position a little to said rear end.

5. The article according to any one of Claim 1, wherein said opening is provided along its edge with a belt-like elastic member having a width of 5 - 50 mm and, in said intermediate region, said cover sheet is bonded to a lower surface of said elastic member along its transversely middle zone so that said elastic member and said surrounding wall present together a substantially T-shaped cross-section when said article is worn by a wearer.

6. A method for making a body waste disposable article having a body fluids absorbent means comprising a liquid-pervious topsheet, a liquid-impervious backsheet and a liquid-absorbent core disposed therebetween, a surrounding

wall being defined by a portion of at least one of said topsheet and said backsheet extending outward beyond a peripheral edge of said absorbent means and folded back to partially cover a top surface of said absorbent means in proximity of said peripheral edge and thereby to leave an opening surrounded by said surrounding wall above a central zone of said absorbent means, and said surrounding wall being elastically stretchable and contractable along an edge of said opening, said method comprising the steps of:

a. covering said core with said topsheet and said backsheet which are, in turn, bonded to each other along their portions extending outward beyond a peripheral edge of said core to obtain a laminate;

b. bonding elastic members to any one of said topsheet and said backsheet with a rectilinear tension along transversely opposite edges of the topsheet or the backsheet extending in parallel to each other with said core lying therebetween;

c. folding said laminate back onto itself with said topsheet lying inside so that said elastic members on said side edges may be placed upon each other;

d. bonding respective halves of said laminate, which have been folded back onto itself, to each other along a pair

SECRET

imaginary lines intersecting said side edges and extending parallel to each other with said core lying therebetween;

e. releasing said elastic members to contract after said step d.

7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein said elastic members are belt-like elastic members each being 5 - 50 mm wide and secured to said side edges along a transversely middle line of this belt-like elastic member.

8. The method according to Claim 6, further comprising a step of forming said backsheet with means used to fasten said article to a wearer's garment.

9. A method for making a body waste disposable article having a body fluids absorbent means comprising a liquid-pervious topsheet, a liquid-impervious backsheet and a liquid-absorbent core disposed therebetween, a surrounding wall being defined by a portion of at least one of said topsheet and said backsheet extending outward beyond a peripheral edge of said absorbent means and folded back to partially cover a top surface of said absorbent means in

proximity of said peripheral edge and thereby to leave an opening surrounded by said surrounding wall above a central zone of said absorbent means, and said surrounding wall being elastically stretchable and contractable along an edge of said opening, said method comprising the steps of:

a. continuously feeding a first web destined to form said topsheet and a second web destined to form said backsheet in one direction, respectively;

b. continuously feeding said elastic members in said one direction and bonding them with a rectilinear tension to any one of said first and second webs along transversely opposite side edges of the web;

c. intermittently feeding said cores in said one direction onto any one of said first and second webs in transversely middle regions of the web;

d. placing said first and second webs upon each other to sandwich said cores therebetween, after said elastic members and said cores have been fed, and thereby to form a third web comprising these first and second webs, elastic members and cores;

e. folding said third web back onto itself with said first web lying inside so that said elastic members on said side edges may be placed upon each other;

f. bonding mutually facing halves of said first web making the part of said third web, which has been folded back onto itself, to each other in a region of said third web extending between each pair of the adjacent cores;

g. cutting said third web which has been folded onto and bonded to itself on said step f in said region extending between each pair of the adjacent cores along an imaginary line extending transversely of said third web so that said region may partially remain on both sides of said imaginary line; and

h. releasing said elastic members to contract after said step g.

10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said elastic members are belt-like elastic members each being 5 - 50 mm wide and secured to said side edges along a transversely middle line of this belt-like elastic member.

11. The method according to Claim 9, further comprising a step of forming said second web with means used to fasten said article to a wearer's garment.